

A2 intermediate section, the engagement segments being provided in the intermediate section of the frame.

A3 9. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 5 wherein the proximal mounting is offset with respect to the longitudinal axis of the support frame.

10. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 5 wherein the proximal section of the frame is flexible with respect to the intermediate section of the frame.

A4 13. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 11 wherein the frame includes a distal section extending from the intermediate section, the distal section of the frame being flexible with respect to the intermediate section of the frame.

A5 15. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 12 wherein the flexible elements are thread-like elements.

16. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 12 wherein at least some of the flexible elements define tethers.

17. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 5 wherein the frame has a distal section extending from the intermediate section.

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21. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 17 wherein the distal mounting is offset with respect to the longitudinal axis of the support frame.

22. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 17 wherein the distal section of the frame is flexible with respect to the intermediate section of the frame.

23. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 5 wherein at least the intermediate section of the support frame is formed from wire.

24. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 5 wherein at least the intermediate section of the support frame is formed by a slotted tube.

25. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 5 wherein at least the intermediate section of the support frame is an elastic, superelastic and/or a shaped memory material.

26. (Amended) An embolic protection system as claimed in claim 5 wherein at least the intermediate section of the support frame is of Nitinol.

27. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 3 wherein the included angle defined between adjacent frame elements is less than 90°.

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29. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 3 wherein at least a portion of a support frame element is offset from the longitudinal axis by an angle of less than 45° in the expanded configuration.

30. (Amended) An embolic device as claimed in claim 1 wherein a support frame element is offset from the longitudinal axis by an angle of less than 10° when the frame is in the collapsed configuration.

32. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the engagement segments are defined by segments of a single frame element.

34. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 1 wherein the collapsible filter body is mounted to the support frame.

37. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 35 wherein the frame includes a distal section extending from the intermediate section, the distal section of the frame being flexible with respect to the intermediate section of the frame.

39. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 36 wherein the flexible elements are thread-like elements.

40. (Amended) An embolic protection device as claimed in claim 36 wherein at least some of the flexible elements define tethers.

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